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21694

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7 FEB 1950

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM NO. [illegible]

SUBJECT: Evidence to Support CIA Comment on British JIC (49) 43 Final

REFERENCES: (a) [redacted] "Susceptibility [illegible] Likely to be Employed by the Soviet Bloc"
(b) Intelligence Memorandum No. 244 (CIA Comment on Reference (a))
(c) [redacted]

1. This agency has reviewed Reference (c) and has found the comments relating to the British Communist Party most helpful.

2. Regarding [redacted] request for evidence in support of comment under Reference (b), it appears that CIA may have conveyed the erroneous impression that it possesses indisputable documentary evidence on the training of foreign Communist leaders, the subject techniques and organization of the Soviet Bloc. The CIA comment failed to indicate that its conclusion was largely based on a number of presumptions and on circumstantial evidence. Therefore, the CIA comment did not clearly convey this fact, it was misleading.

3. In the best [illegible] documentary and [illegible] evidence held by CIA on this [illegible] is [illegible] Appendix. The evidence falls into two categories, (a) [illegible] in the Bloc which [illegible] and (b) [illegible] regulations, handbooks, and [illegible] to have obtained these [illegible] A summary of this evidence is attached as Appendix "A".

Document No. [redacted]
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
DECLASSIFIED
Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C
DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77
Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763
Date: 4/4/78 By: [redacted]

[redacted]

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APPENDIX "A"

Summary of Evidence in Support of CIA Comment

[redacted]

1. General Considerations.

Evidence from multiple sources indicates that before World War II the USSR operated a comprehensive system of schools for foreign Communists. Curricula in these schools ranged from elementary political theory to the techniques of insurrection. Although detailed knowledge on post World War II programs is quite limited, it can be safely assumed that this highly effective Soviet method for maintaining technical coordination within the international Communist movement is still being employed.

Training courses at these schools are so designed that Soviet-trained personnel can pass on their knowledge to other Communists upon their return to their native countries. In most areas occupied by the Germans during World War II, Communists provided the majority of leaders for effective underground organizations engaged in espionage, subversion, infiltration, etc. The techniques used in these organizations were the same as those which they had previously learned in the USSR. These trained Communists not only accomplished their knowledge of advanced techniques to other members of the underground organizations with which they were affiliated, but also tested the techniques in action, perfected them, and developed new ones.

It is evident that a great potential exists in Western European Communist Parties for sabotage operations, part of which may be directed by the present leadership.

2. Schools Providing Instruction in Subversion.

A number of schools providing instruction in espionage and [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

Some foreign Communists have also been trained at the Academy of Red Professors and the Frunze Military Academy, both located in Moscow. The course of study pursued by these Communists at the Frunze Military Academy includes intensive training in insurrectionary techniques.

A credible source has reported the existence (in the 1930's) of a special sabotage and espionage school in Leningrad. Detailed knowledge concerning its curriculum or enrollment is not available. A school specializing in political indoctrination (including espionage) has also been reported to exist in Vladivostok.

3. Foreign Communist Leaders Trained in Soviet Schools.

A search of [redacted] leads to the conclusion that most of the top Communist leaders in Western European countries have spent considerable time (from one to eighteen years) in the Soviet Union. Some of the leaders are known to have attended one or more of the schools cited above during their stay in the USSR, while others, because of the circumstances involved in their stay, are presumed to have attended such schools.

Listed below are top Communist leaders of Western European countries who, it may be reasonably presumed, have had training in the USSR.

France - Thorez, Duclos, Marty, Cachin, Fajon, Frachon, Servin, Tillon, Vermeersch

Italy - Togliatti, Di Vittorio, Longo, Pajetta, Amendola, Secchia, Roveda, Scoccimarro

Spain - Ibarruri, Carrillo, Galiano, Mijares, Modesto

Germany - Pieck, Ulbricht, Grotewohl, Dahlem, Lehmann, Ackermann, Merker, Fechner, Zaisser, Wollweber

The Netherlands - De Groot, Smit

The above list is by no means all-inclusive and [redacted] number of professional Communists in Western Europe who have subject are available. The list is limited to those persons [redacted] this program normally receives [redacted] under this program, training is normally given to persons who [redacted] are relative newcomers to the party, rather than to the [redacted]